



*Embassy of the United States of America  
Algiers, Algeria*

October 27, 2011

## **NAPEO delegation in Algiers**

On October 29-31, Lorraine Hariton, the U.S. Department of State's Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs, will lead a delegation of 12 prominent American entrepreneurs, mentors, venture capitalists and angel investors to Algeria.

The delegation is sponsored by the U.S. – North Africa Partnership for Economic Opportunity, a public-private partnership between the U.S. Department of State and Partners for a New Beginning. Partners for a New Beginning is a global alliance of public-private partnerships dedicated to implementing President Obama's vision laid out at Cairo University in 2009 to broaden and deepen relationships between the United States and local communities worldwide. The delegation will visit Morocco and Tunisia in addition to Algeria. The visit in Algeria will be organized in partnership with the PNB-NAPEO Algeria advisory board and the Algeria Start-up Initiative, and managed by the State Department's Global Entrepreneurship Program. Several members of the delegation will be from the Maghreb Diaspora, including entrepreneurs originally from Algeria.

The delegation builds on the U.S. – North Africa Partnership for Economic Opportunity Maghreb Entrepreneurship Conference that took place in Algiers, Algeria in December 2010 co-hosted by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. – Algeria Business Council.

The goal of the delegation is to foster and deepen relationships and partnerships between U.S. investors and entrepreneurs and their local counterparts in emerging markets and showcase local talent in Algeria and throughout the Maghreb region.

The delegation will be organized primarily around business plan presentation sessions and mentoring workshops to promote the most promising entrepreneurs in Algeria. Ten to fifteen promising startups will pitch their business ideas to the delegation and additional companies and young entrepreneurs will engage in one-on-one mentoring meetings. The delegation will also host business angel roundtables and mentoring sessions with local institutions that mentor entrepreneurs themselves.



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The delegation's over-arching theme will be "innovation," defined broadly. Many of the delegates will be technology entrepreneurs and investors from Silicon Valley, but the delegation will also include representation from across the United States, including Detroit, Michigan, home to the largest Arab-American population. Other highlights of the delegation include networking with Algerian entrepreneurs and business leaders, a visit to local business schools, sessions on angel investor networks, an investor dinner, and a reception hosted by US Ambassador Henry Ensher.